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BATMAN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY
DEC.
NO. 152

**"The FALSE-FACE
SOCIETY!"**

EACH MAN HERE IS
WEARING A "FALSE FACE"
THAT HE USED TO COMMIT
A CRIME-- EXCEPT **HIM!**
HE'S NOT THE **FALSE** BATMAN--
HE'S THE **REAL** BATMAN!

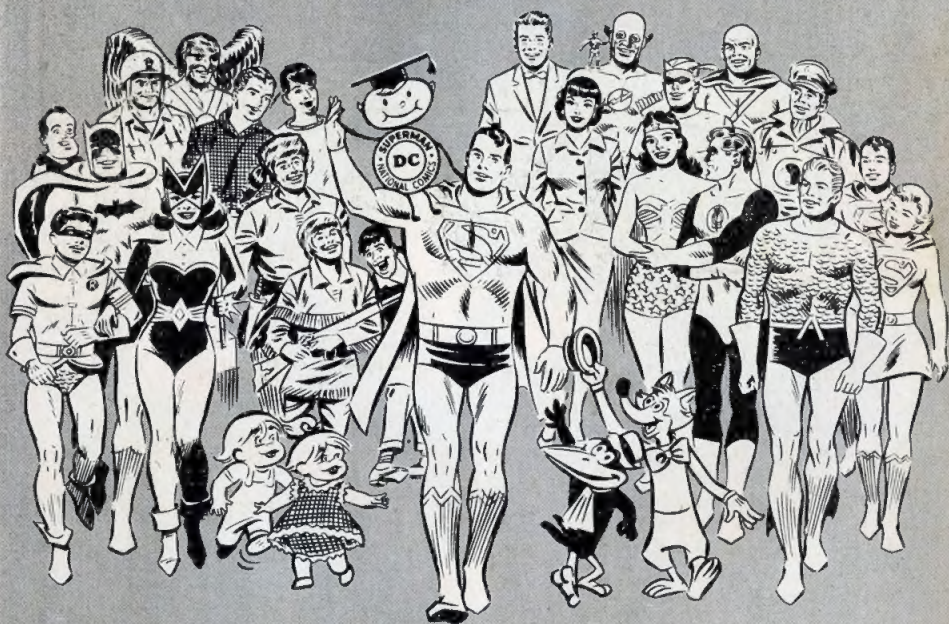


HI, EVERYBODY!

MEET JOHNNY DC

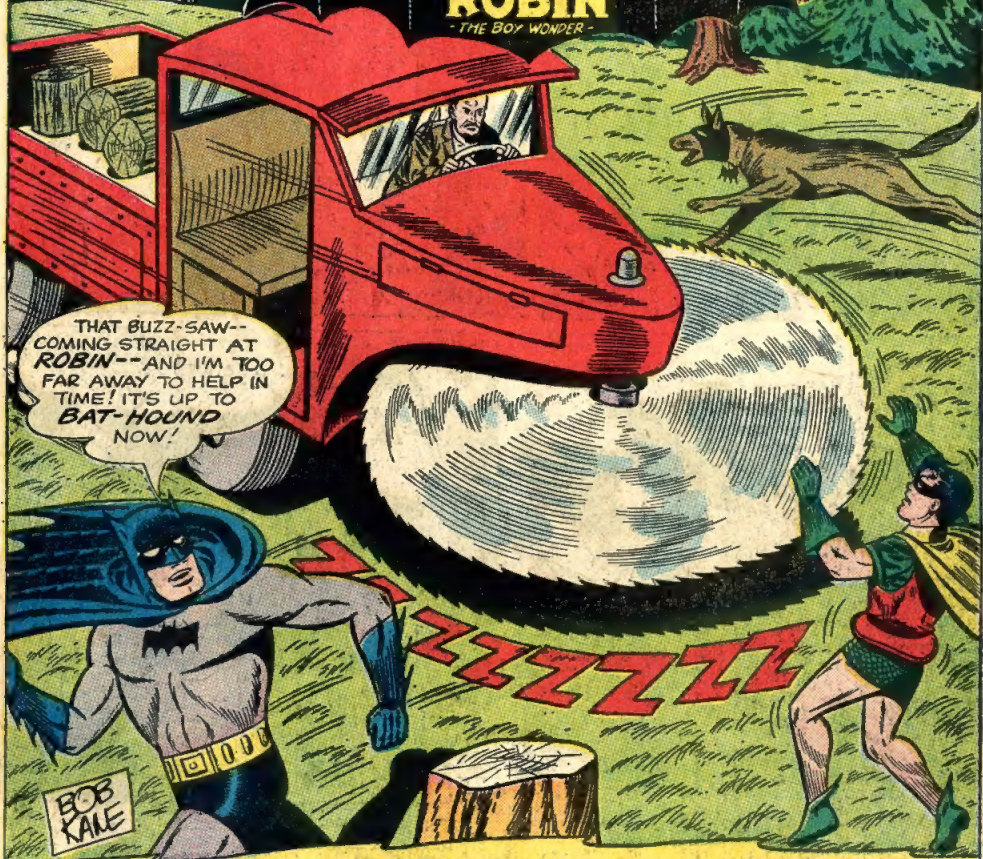
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ALL THE NEW AND EXCITING ISSUES
OF OUR MAGAZINES, DESIGNED
FOR YOUR READING PLEASURE!



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
"THE BOY WONDER"



IT SEEMED TO BE A SIMPLE CASE AT FIRST--A CASE THAT STARTED IN GOTHAM CITY, BUT, BEFORE LONG, THE CASE TOOK BATMAN, ROBIN, AND BAT-HOUND HALF-WAY AROUND THE WORLD TO A RENDEZVOUS WITH DEATH... AS THEY BATTLED THE EVIL CUNNING OF A MASTER-CRIMINAL WHO POSSESSED THE TERRIBLE SECRET OF A...

FORMULA FOR DOOM

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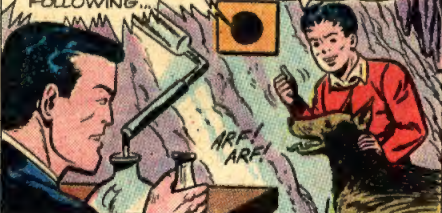
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DEEP IN THE SECRET **BAT-CAVE** BELOW THEIR MANSION, **BRUCE WAYNE** AND **YOUNG DICK GRAYSON** ARE ALERTED BY A POLICE ALARM...

CALLING ZZZZ
BATMAN AND ROBIN!
YOU ARE NEEDED AT ONCE! BRING **BAT-HOUND!** STAND BY FOR INSTRUCTIONS FOLLOWING...



HE GAVE US THE SLIP IN THE WOODS! HOWEVER, HE LOST HIS HAT-- AND WE FIGURED **BAT-HOUND** MIGHT BE ABLE TO PICK UP HIS SCENT FROM IT!



SOON, THE TRAIL LEADS TO A DESERTED LOGGING CAMP...

THERE'S **TANEY**-- AND THERE'S ANOTHER MAN WITH HIM!



BATMAN AND ROBIN!
THEIR BLASTED HOUND TRAILED YOU HERE!

SOON AFTER, A MASKED TRIO OF CRIME-FIGHTERS RUSH AS TO AN APPOINTMENT OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY...

WHILE PATROLLING THE HIGHWAY, WE SPOTTED **ARNOLD TANEY**, THE RENEGADE SCIENTIST! HE WAS ACTING SUSPICIOUSLY, SO WE DECIDED TO BRING HIM IN FOR QUESTIONING-- BUT HE DUCKED AWAY!



BAT-HOUND'S HOT ON THE TRAIL NOW! WE'LL BE CLOSING IN ON **TANEY** REAL FAST!

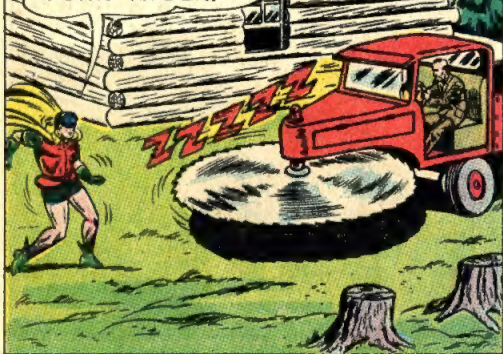


SUDDENLY... THE OTHER MAN'S MAKING A BREAK FOR IT! I'M GOING AFTER HIM, **ROBIN**-- YOU GRAB **TANEY**!



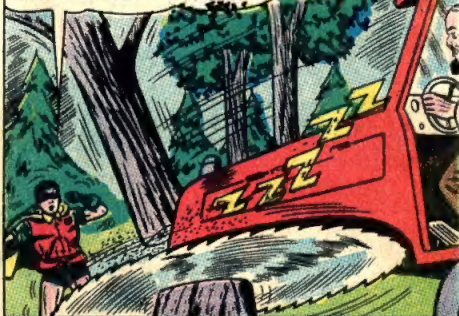
BUT AS **ROBIN** STARTS FORWARD, THE RENEGADE SCIENTIST LEAPS INTO A VEHICLE NEARBY, AND...

UHP! HE'S COMING AT ME WITH A MACHINE THAT'S USED TO CUT DOWN TIMBER!

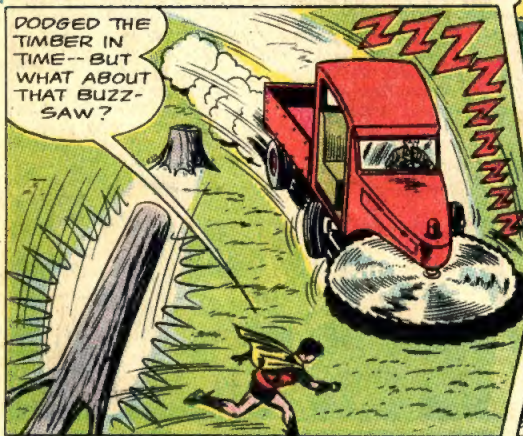


ATTEMPTING TO DODGE THE ONCOMING BUZZ-SAW, **ROBIN** BACKS INTO THE WOODS, BUT...

NOTHING STOPS THAT MACHINE! THAT TREE WILL TOPPLE RIGHT ON ME!



DODGED THE TIMBER IN TIME-- BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT BUZZ-SAW?



ABRUPTLY, A SHAGGY SHAPE RUSHES TO **ROBIN'S** RESCUE...

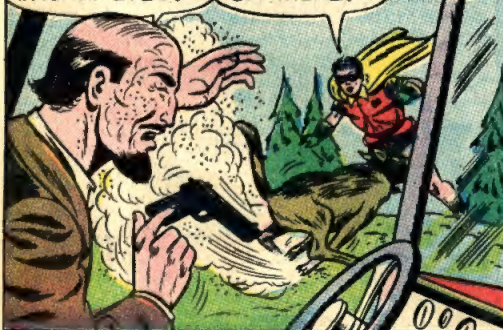
BAT-HOUND! I'LL STOP HIM!



REACTING TO THE DANGER, THE CANINE CRIME-FIGHTER SWIFTLY TURNS AND...

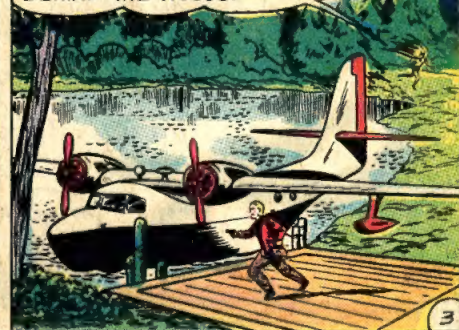
AGH! THAT MUTT KICKED DIRT INTO MY EYES!

NICE GOING, **BAT-HOUND!** NOW I'LL DRAG TANEY OUT OF THERE!



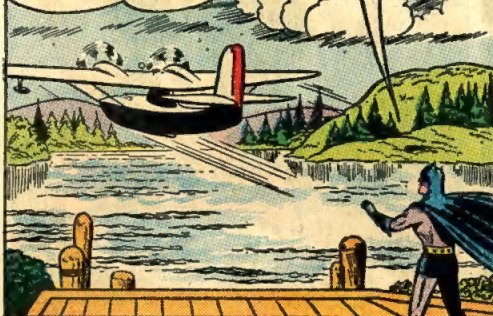
MEANWHILE, AS **BATMAN** PUSUES HIS FLEET-FOOTED QUARRY...

GREAT SCOTT! HE HAD A SEA-PLANE HIDDEN IN THE LAKE BEHIND THE WOODS!



INSTANTLY, MOTORS ROAR--AND THE SEAPLANE STREAKS FORWARD!

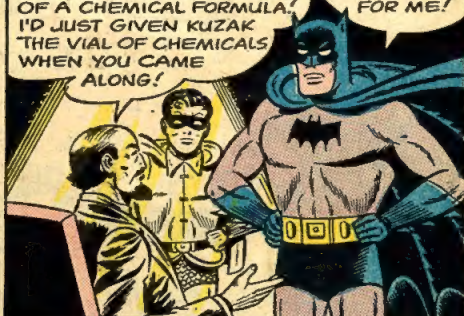
TOO LATE TO STOP HIM! BUT TANEY'S A NERVOUS TYPE-- HE'LL CRACK UNDER QUESTIONING AND TELL WHY HE MET THAT MAN HERE!



SHORTLY, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

A--A WEEK AGO A EUROPEAN NAMED KUZAK CONTACTED ME! HE SAID HE'D PAY ME \$2,000 FOR MAKING THE INGREDIENTS OF A CHEMICAL FORMULA! I'D JUST GIVEN KUZAK THE VIAL OF CHEMICALS WHEN YOU CAME ALONG!

I'M SURE YOU STILL REMEMBER THE FORMULA! WRITE IT OUT FOR ME!



AFTER TANEY COMPLIES...

THAT'S THE FORMULA-- BUT THE INGREDIENTS DON'T MAKE SENSE! THEY DON'T ADD UP TO ANYTHING!

MAYBE THAT'S BECAUSE THIS FORMULA IS **INCOMPLETE**! IF SO, THIS IS ONLY **PART** OF A **LARGER** FORMULA!

HMM... KUZAK'S UNDOUBTEDLY HEADED BACK TO EUROPE! DO YOU KNOW WHERE?



I ASKED HIM-- BUT HE ONLY LAUGHED, AND SAID HE WAS GOING TO "KEEP ANOTHER APPOINTMENT WHERE THERE'S A MANY-HEADED MONSTER!"

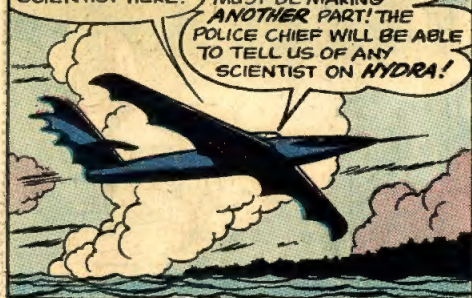
HMM... IN MYTHOLOGY, THE MANY-HEADED MONSTER WAS THE **HYDRA**! THERE'S A SMALL GREEK ISLAND NAMED HYDRA! THAT'S WHERE KUZAK MUST BE GOING!



LATER, THE SWIFT **BAT-PLANE** SPEEDS THE THREE CRIME-FIGHTERS TO THE ANCIENT ISLAND...

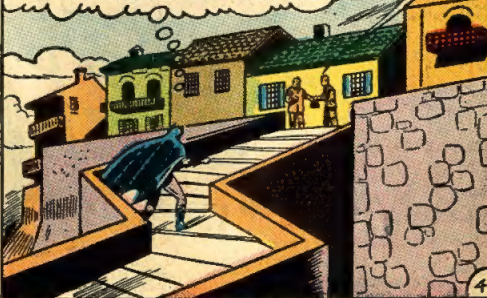
BATMAN, YOU THINK KUZAK'S APPOINTMENT WAS WITH ANOTHER SCIENTIST HERE?

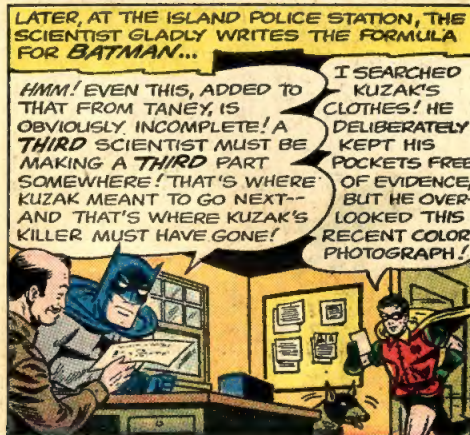
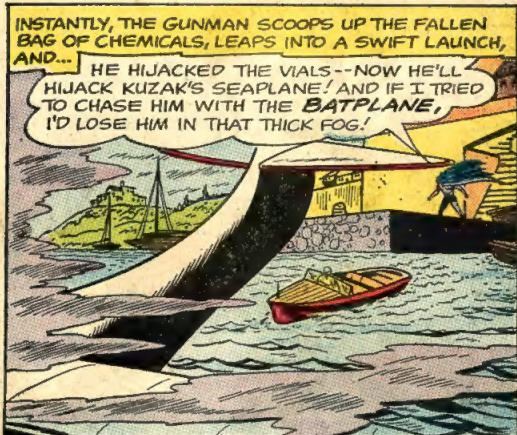
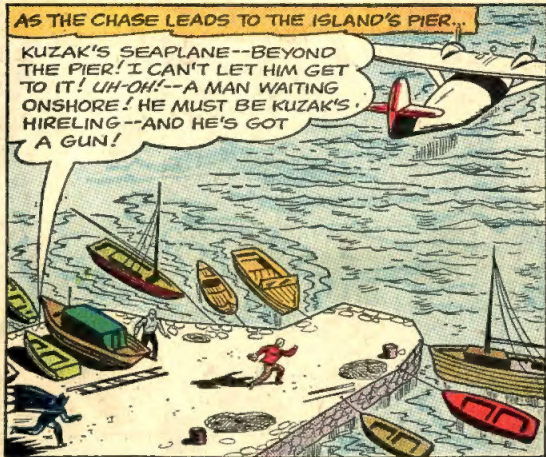
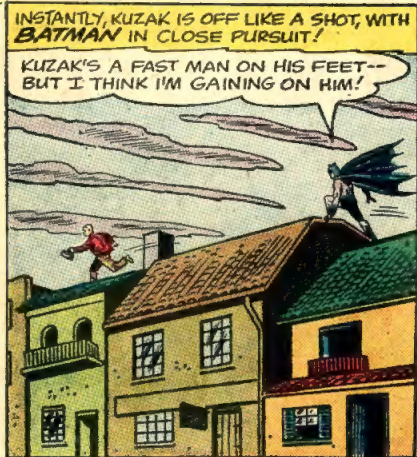
YES, **ROBIN**! SINCE KUZAK HAD TANEY MAKE ONLY **PART** OF A FORMULA, A SECOND SCIENTIST MUST BE MAKING **ANOTHER** PART! THE POLICE CHIEF WILL BE ABLE TO TELL US OF ANY SCIENTIST ON **HYDRA**!

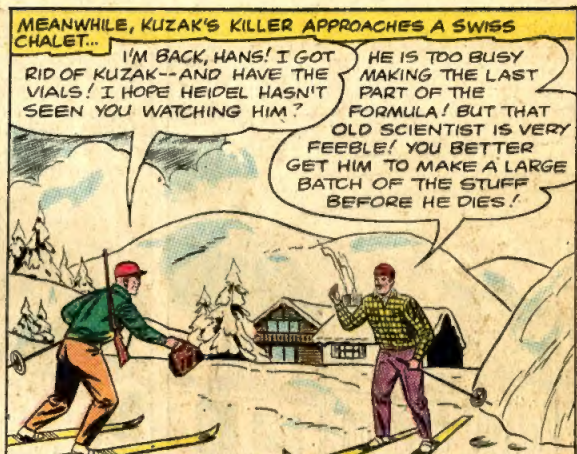


UPON CONSULTING THE POLICE CHIEF, THE TRIO SPLITS UP TO HASTEN THE SEARCH FOR A SCIENTIST NAMED KINOS...

NO WONDER KINOS WASN'T AT HOME! **BATMAN**-- HE WAS MEETING KUZAK-- TO GIVE HIM THE SECOND VIAL OF CHEMICALS! **UH-OH!** KUZAK'S SPOTTED ME!







MEANWHILE...

ISN'T MIXING ALL THREE INGREDIENTS TOGETHER DANGEROUS?

NO! THE MIXTURE WILL ONLY EXPLODE UPON CONTACT! THE HILLS ARE DESERTED NOW--SO

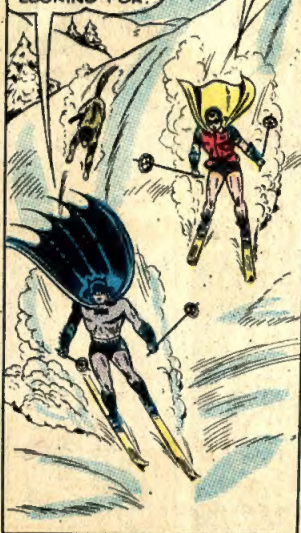
WE'LL TEST A SMALL PORTION WITH MY AIR RIFLE!



SOMETIME LATER...

THE PROPRIETOR'S TIP DID THE TRICK-- BUT NO SIGHT OF THE MAN WE'RE LOOKING FOR!

HE'S GOT TO BE AROUND...



NEARBY...

I'VE FILLED A SMALL CAPSULE WITH A TINY PORTION OF THE EXPLOSIVE! NOW, WATCH WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I SHOOT IT AT THAT MOUNTAINTOP FROM THIS POWERFUL AIR RIFLE!



OHH! THAT TINY "BULLET" PACKED THE POWER OF THE LARGEST ARTILLERY SHELL!

EXACTLY! AN AIR-PISTOL LOADED WITH THESE CAPSULES WILL BE LIKE CARRYING A CANNON AROUND IN A POCKET! WE'LL BE ABLE TO SELL QUANTITIES OF THEM EVERYWHERE--FOR BIG MONEY!



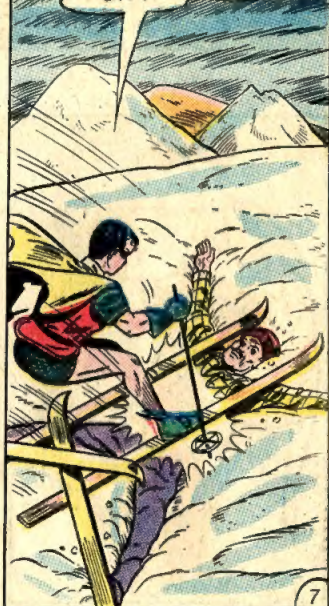
SUDDENLY...

WHEN WE HEARD THAT EXPLOSION, WE KNEW YOU HAD TO BE THE SOURCE OF IT!

BATMAN AND ROBIN! HOW...?



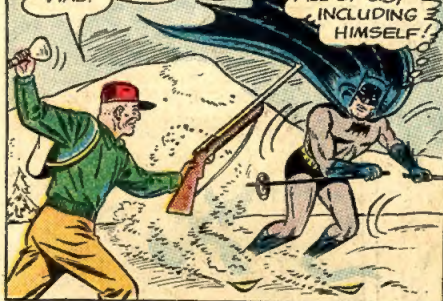
X MARKS THE SPOT-- AND YOU'RE RIGHT ON IT!



EVEN AS **BATMAN** SWOOPS DOWN, THE WILY FLORIAN WHEELS AROUND, AND...

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME ALIVE, **BATMAN!** ONE MORE STEP-- AND I'LL SMASH THIS EXPLOSIVE VIAL!

GREAT SCOTT! HE'S CRAZY ENOUGH TO HURL IT AND DESTROY ALL OF US, INCLUDING HIMSELF!



ABRUPTLY, A FOUR-FOOTED CRIME-FIGHTER INTERVENES...

BAT-HOUND!
GOOD BOY! YOU SAVED THE DAY!



NEXT INSTANT...

NOW YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER CROOK ABOUT TO HEAD FOR PRISON!



LATER--THE LAST MYSTERY IS EXPLAINED...

THE PHOTO SHOP OWNER IDENTIFIED KUZAK FROM HIS PICTURE, AND SENT US HERE! WE FOUND HEIDEL DYING! HE CONFESSED EVERYTHING! THAT'S HOW WE CAME TO BE LOOKING FOR YOU!

AS FOR THE LAST PART OF THE FORMULA, HEIDEL KEPT THAT IN HIS HEAD-- SO IT DIED WITH HIM! THIS VIAL CONTAINS ALL THERE IS--AND I'M DISPOSING OF IT SO THAT IT CAN NEVER AGAIN BE A FORMULA FOR DOOM!



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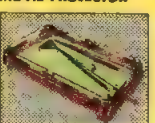
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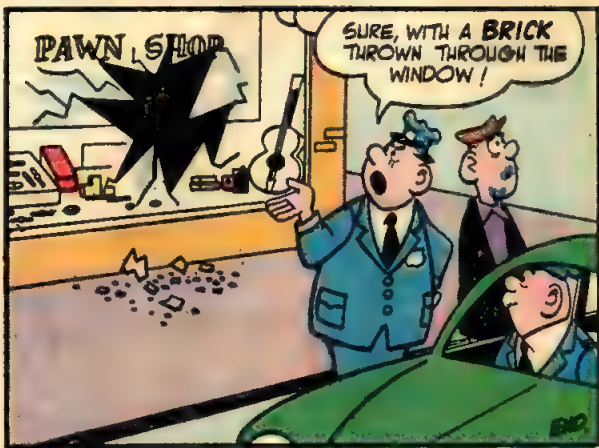
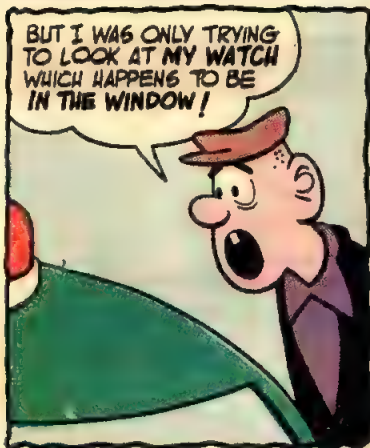


\$100 IN CASH



CASEY

THE COP





BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

IN GOTHAM CITY, A SERIES OF STRANGE CRIMES BEGINS, WITH A BANDIT EACH TIME WEARING A BIZARRE HEADPIECE THAT HIDES HIS TRUE FACE! WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN--WHOSE TRUE FACES ARE ALSO HIDDEN--TRY TO BATTLE THESE UNUSUAL CRIMINALS, IT IS ONLY AFTER A LOSS OF FACE THAT THEY FINALLY ARE ABLE TO UNMASK THE...

the FALSE FACE SOCIETY

Annual
ART
Exhibit

BATMAN! WATCH OUT FOR THAT LANCE!

DON'T WORRY--HE WON'T WIN THIS JOUSTING CONTEST!

BOB
KANE

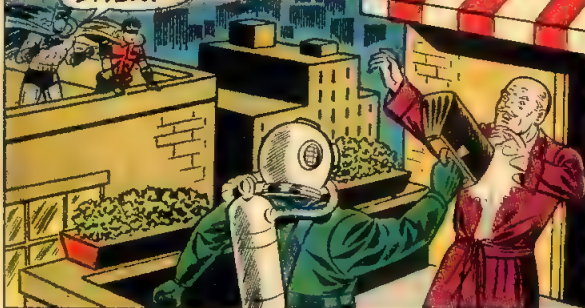


NIGHT LOOKS DOWN ON TWO CAPED FIGURES--**BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ON THEIR PATROL OF **GOTHAM CITY**...



SUDDENLY, **BATMAN'S** SHARP EYES STARE AT A BIZARRE SIGHT...

GREAT SCOTT! ON THE **VAN BRUNT** PENTHOUSE--TWO MEN STRUGGLING! AND ONE OF THEM IS WEARING THE COSTUME OF A **DEEP SEA DIVER!**



HE--HE STOLE MY WIFE'S NECKLACE...

ROBIN, LOOK AFTER **MR. VAN BRUNT**--WHILE I COLLAR THAT CROOK! HE CAN'T RUN FAR IN THAT CUMBERSOME COSTUME!



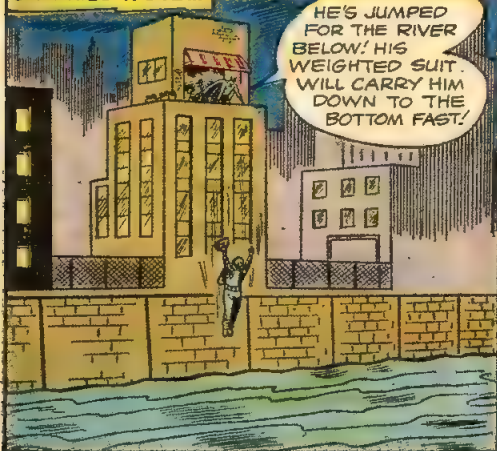
AN IRON-SHOD FOOT LASHES OUT--BUT **BATMAN** DUCKS PAST THE WICKED BLOW, AND...

HIS HEAD'S PROTECTED--BUT HIS MIDRIFF ISN'T! WISH I COULD SEE HIS FACE--BUT THAT MESH GRID ON HIS FACE-PLATE HIDES HIS FEATURES!



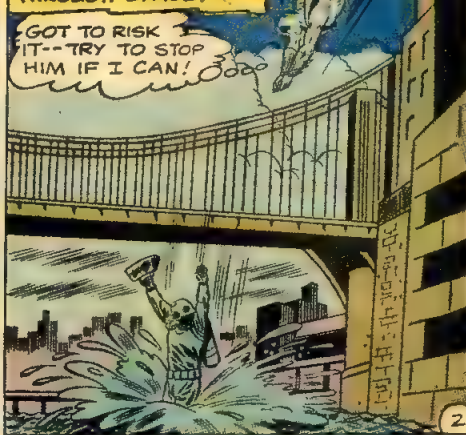
SUDDENLY THE BIZARRE BANDIT MAKES A SURPRISE MOVE...

HE'S JUMPED FOR THE RIVER BELOW! HIS WEIGHTED SUIT WILL CARRY HIM DOWN TO THE BOTTOM FAST!



INSTANTLY **BATMAN** MAKES A DARING LEAP THROUGH SPACE!

GOT TO RISK IT--TRY TO STOP HIM IF I CAN!





BATMAN



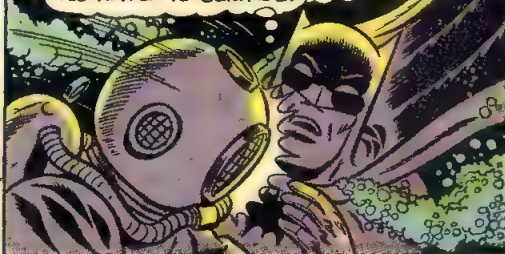
CLEAVING THE WATER, **BATMAN** CLOSES IN ON THE BANDIT...

HE'S WEARING AN OXYGEN-TANK, BUT I'M NOT--AND HE KNOWS IT! HE'S DOING EVERYTHING HE CAN TO STALL ME, SO I'LL HAVE TO GO UP FOR AIR!



AS THE IRON HELMET BUTTS **BATMAN** BACK...

MY LUNGS FEEL AS IF THEY'RE BURSTING-- I'LL HAVE TO SURFACE!



SHOOTING TO THE SURFACE, **BATMAN'S** TORTURED LUNGS GRATEFULLY BREATHE AGAIN...

AHHH! AIR! NO USE GOING DOWN AGAIN FOR THAT BANDIT! IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO TRACK HIM DOWN!



SWIFTLY, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS DASH INTO THE MUSEUM, WHERE...



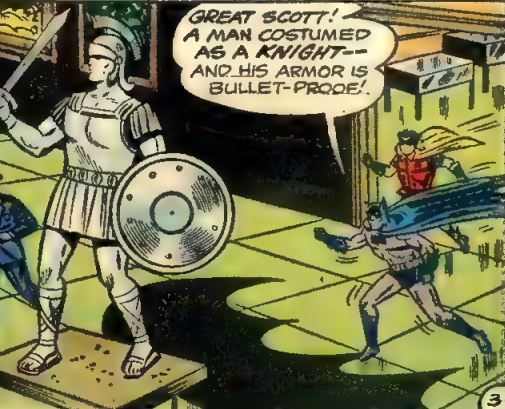
THE FOLLOWING DAY, AS THE **BATMOBILE** RIDES THE STREETS...

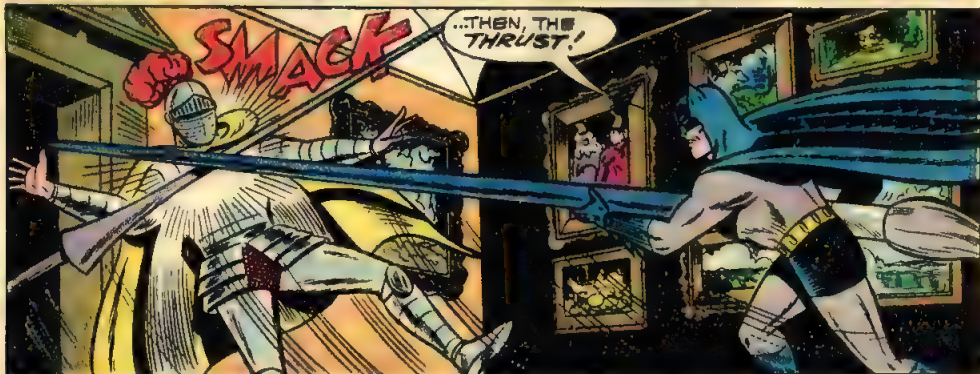
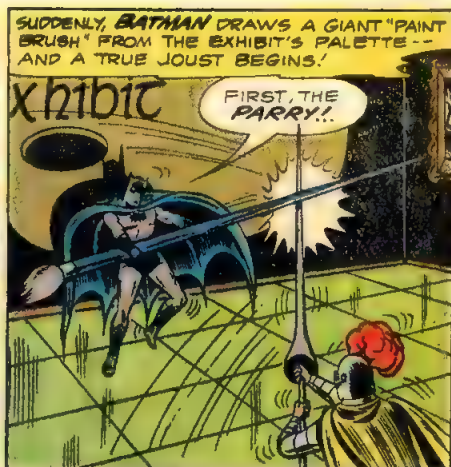
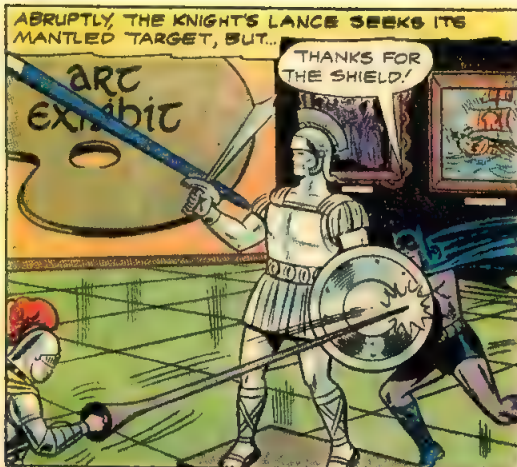
GUN SHOTS-- COMING FROM THE GOTHAM ART MUSEUM WHERE THERE'S A SHOWING OF A COLLECTION OF MASTERPIECES!

SOUNDS LIKE SOME CROOK IS TRYING TO GET AWAY WITH ONE!



GREAT SCOTT! A MAN COSTUMED AS A KNIGHT-- AND HIS ARMOR IS BULLET-PROOF!







BATMAN



LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

MINUTES AGO, THIS OFFICER ALMOST GRABBED A BANDIT WHO STOLE A VALUABLE STATUETTE FROM A TEMPLE IN CHINATOWN! THE CROOK GOT INTO THE PLACE BY WEARING THE MASK OF A CHINESE TEMPLE DANCER!

HMM! FIRST A BANDIT IN A DIVER'S HELMET--THEN ANOTHER IN A KNIGHT'S COSTUME--AND NOW ONE IN A CHINESE TEMPLE MASK! COULD THERE BE A CONNECTION?



THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, IN THE SUBTERRANEAN BAT-CAVE BENEATH THE WAYNE MANSION...

YOU FIGURE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GET MORE INFORMATION ON THESE CRIMES THROUGH THE UNDERWORLD GRAPEVINE?

YES! I'LL DISGUISE MYSELF AS NICK BAYLES--A CROOK THAT NOBODY KNOWS IS DEAD!



SOMETIME LATER, THE DISGUISED BATMAN WALKS INTO AN UNDERWORLD HANGOUT...

HI! I JUST GOT INTO TOWN--AND ALL I HEAR ABOUT IS GUYS PULLING JOBS IN CRAZY COSTUMES! WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

NICK, YOU MEAN YOU AIN'T HEARD ABOUT THE FALSE FACE SOCIETY?

SOME BIG SHOT, WHO KEEPS HIS IDENTITY A SECRET, IS RUNNING A CRIME CONTEST!



TO QUALIFY, YOU HAVE TO PULL A SENSATIONAL CRIME--USING THE "FALSE FACE" OF AN OCCUPATION!

THEN AT THE END OF THE CONTEST, THE "FALSE FACE" BANDIT WHO HAS PULLED THE MOST SENSATIONAL JOB, WINS ALL THE LOOT!

IT'S A KIND OF CRIME SWEEPSTAKES, AND THE BOSS TAKES A CUT FOR RUNNING IT!



HMM! IF I PULLED A JOB IN COSTUME, HOW WOULD I MEET THE BIG BOSS OF THE FALSE FACE SOCIETY?

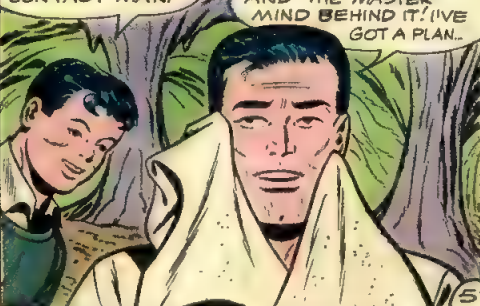
YOU DON'T! HE HAS A CONTACT AT PIER 14 AT MIDNIGHT--AND YOU IDENTIFY YOURSELF BY YOUR COSTUME, AND THE LOOT!



LATER, WHEN THE DISGUISED BATMAN RETURNS TO THE BAT-CAVE...

NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS GO TO PIER 14 AND GRAB THE CONTACT MAN!

NO! WE WANT TO GRAB THE WHOLE FALSE FACE SOCIETY--AND THE MASTER-MIND BEHIND IT! I'VE GOT A PLAN.





BATMAN



THE NEXT NIGHT, AS A WORLD-FAMOUS VIOLINIST WAITS AT A TV STUDIO TO PLAY FOR THE VAST AUDIENCE...

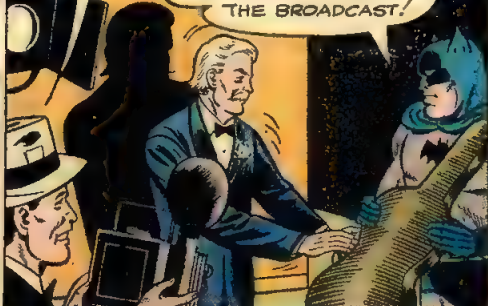
HOW ABOUT A PICTURE OF YOU WITH THAT PRICELESS **STRADIVARIUS** OUR NEWSPAPERS HAVE BEEN WRITING ABOUT?



SUDDENLY, A FAMILIAR FIGURE INTRUDES...

HEY! IT'S **BATMAN!** GET A SHOT OF HIM!

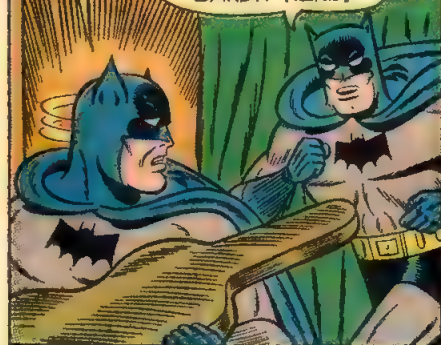
SIR, I'VE HEARD A RUMOR THAT A BANDIT MAY TRY TO STEAL YOUR VIOLIN TONIGHT! I'LL HOLD IT FOR SAFEKEEPING UNTIL THE BROADCAST!



SUDDENLY...

BATMAN!

I HAD A HUNCH ALL THE PUBLICITY ABOUT THAT STRADIVARIUS WOULD BRING A **FALSE FACE** BANDIT HERE!

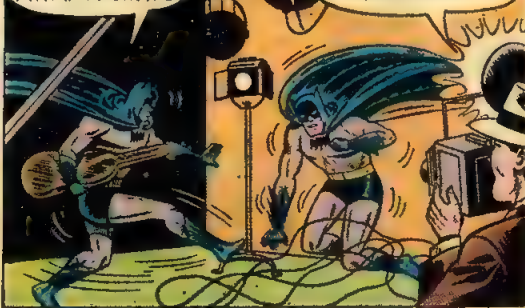


ABRUPTLY, THE FAKE "**BATMAN**" ERUPTS INTO ACTION...

I'VE GOT THE VIOLIN -- NOW LET'S SEE YOU TRY TO TAKE IT AWAY FROM ME!

WHAT...

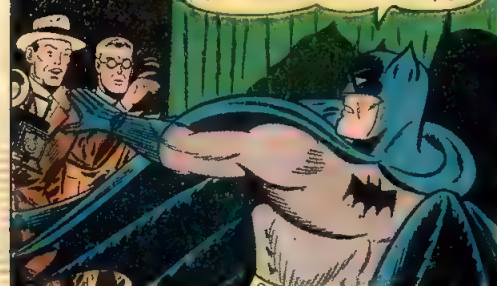
WOW! THE REAL **BATMAN** AND A PHONEY "**BATMAN**" BATTLING IT OUT! WHAT A SHOT!



THEN, AS THE MASQUERADER DASHES AWAY...

C'MON, **BATMAN**-- WE'LL HELP YOU GRAB THAT PHONEY!

NO! STAY HERE! HE'S PROBABLY ARMED! HE MAY GET PANICKY-- START SHOOTING-- AND HIT AN INNOCENT PERSON! I'LL TACKLE HIM ALONE!



BUT SHORTLY, AS THE CURIOUS PHOTOGRAPHERS DECIDE TO INVESTIGATE, THEY FIND...

HE--HE KNOCKED ME OUT --AND ESCAPED!

HOLY SMOKE! THE FAKE "**BATMAN**" KAYOED THE **REAL BATMAN**! WHAT A STORY!





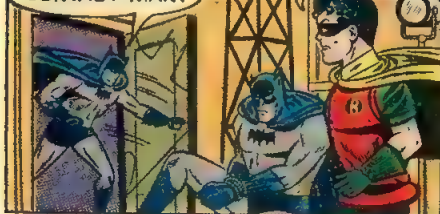
BATMAN



BUT AFTER THE PHOTOGRAPHERS LEAVE...

NOBODY GUESSED I KAYOED THE BANDIT! POLICE WILL SMUGGLE HIM TO JAIL! NOW I CAN GO THROUGH WITH MY PLAN, AND POSE AS THE **FALSE FACE** BANDIT IN ORDER TO MEET THE CONTACT MAN!

BUT SINCE THE BANDIT CAME AS "**BATMAN**"-- YOU DON'T HAVE TO BOTHER SWITCHING COSTUMES NOW!



AFTERWARD, **BATMAN** LEARNS HE IS NOT THE ONLY MASKED MAN TO MEET THE CONTACT...

YOU'RE COSTUMED AS A **BOB-SLED** DRIVER! AND YOU'VE GOT THE HISTORIC GOLD SKI TROPHY!

YEAH. I SNEAKED INTO THE **WINTER SPORT SHOW** AT THE STADIUM, WHERE THEY'VE GOT ARTIFICIAL SNOW ON THE GROUNDS! I GOT AWAY ON A **BOB-SLED**--AND NOW I'M GONNA HOLD THIS ANCIENT TROPHY FOR RANSOM!



UPON IDENTIFYING THE LOOT, THE CONTACT MAN WHISPERS INSTRUCTIONS TO THE NEW CRIME-CONTESTANTS...

TOMORROW NIGHT THE CONTEST IS OVER! MEET AT PIER 18--AND I'LL TAKE YOU AND THE OTHERS TO THE HIDEOUT!



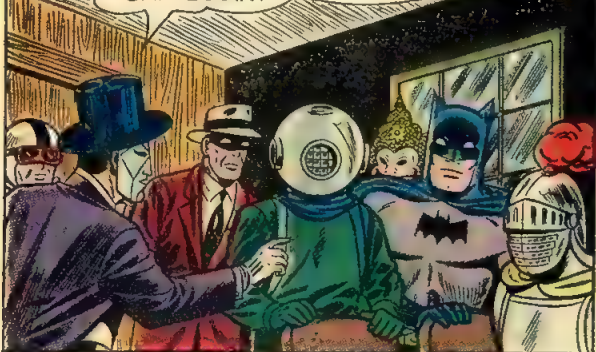
AND SO, 24 HOURS LATER, A GROUP OF ODDLY COSTUMED MEN ARE FERRIED TO THE HIDEOUT OF THE CRIMINAL SWEEPSTAKES...

SAY, DON'T TELL ME THAT ABANDONED OLD LIGHTHOUSE IS WHERE WE'RE HEADING FOR?



SHORTLY, WITHIN THE LIGHTHOUSE...

TAKE YOUR SEATS--AND THEN THE CRIME CONTEST OF THE **FALSE FACE SOCIETY** CAN BEGIN!



THE WINNER WILL BE DECIDED BY BALLOT! SINCE EACH OF YOU WOULD NATURALLY VOTE FOR YOURSELF AS FIRST CHOICE, I WANT YOU TO VOTE FOR A **SECOND CHOICE**! AND REMEMBER--CHOOSE THE MAN WHOSE ROBBERY WAS MOST SPECTACULAR!



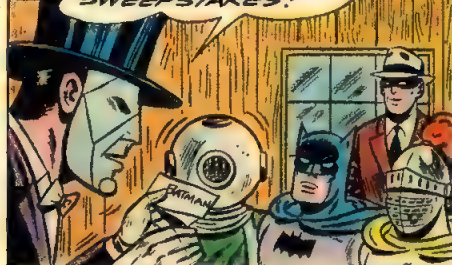


BATMAN



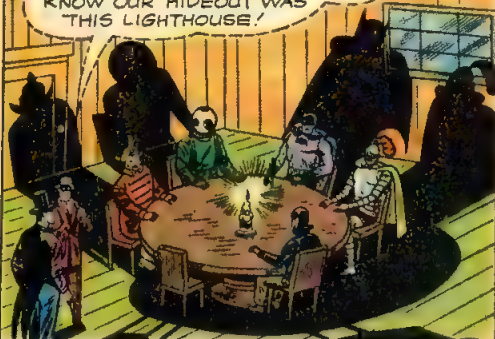
THE BALLOTS ARE MARKED--AND ALL WAIT EXPECTANTLY TO HEAR WHO HAS WON THE ACCUMULATED LOOT!

ALL VOTES WERE FOR THE BANDIT WHO DISGUISED HIMSELF AS **BATMAN**! AND OUTSMARTED THE **REAL BATMAN**! SO I DECLARE YOU THE WINNER OF THE **FALSE FACE SOCIETY SWEEPSTAKES**!



SUDDENLY, THE CONTACT MAN WHISPERS INTO THE EAR OF THE CRIME-SOCIETY LEADER...

BOSS, I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING! "**BATMAN**" DIDN'T KNOW OUR HIDEOUT WAS THIS LIGHTHOUSE!



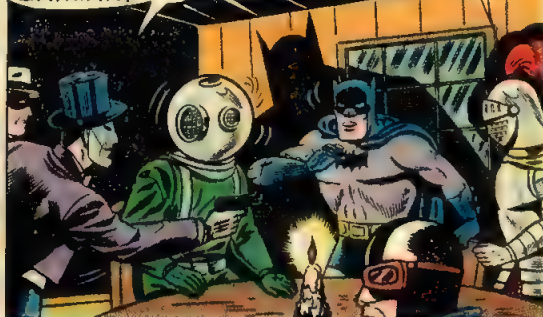
THAT CHANGES THE SITUATION!

LUCKILY, I CAN READ LIPS! HMM! THE OTHER MASKED BANDITS DIDN'T KNOW THE HIDEOUT'S LOCATION--YET THE **FAKE BATMAN** APPARENTLY WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE KNOWN! NOW THIS WHOLE SETUP MAKES SENSE...



YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A **FAKE BATMAN**--A CRIMINAL LIKE ALL MEMBERS OF THE **FALSE FACE SOCIETY**--BUT YOU'RE NOT! YOU'RE THE **REAL BATMAN**!

WHAT? **BATMAN HIMSELF!** GRAB HIM!



WAIT! THINK! IF THE IDENTITY OF EACH MEMBER IS SECRET, HOW COULD HE KNOW I'M THE **REAL BATMAN**--UNLESS HE ALREADY **KNEW** THE IDENTITY OF THE **FAKE "BATMAN"**--WHICH MEANS THAT THE **FAKE "BATMAN"** WAS HIS **PARTNER**!

SAY--THAT'S RIGHT! BUT WHY WOULD HE BE A PARTNER?



HE KNEW YOUR **SECOND CHOICE** WOULD BE FOR THE MAN WHO PULLED A SENSATIONAL CRIME BY USING MY CRIME-FIGHTING REPUTATION! THAT MEANS HIS SECRET PARTNER WOULD WIN THE CONTEST--AND YOUR **LOOT**!



AS BATMAN EXPECTED, THE IRATE BANDITS MOMENTARILY IGNORE HIM TO VENT THEIR RAGE ON THE CRIME-SWINDLER!

IT WAS ALL A RACKET! WE WERE SUPPOSED TO BE SMART CROOKS--BUT YOU TRIED TO BE SMARTER!

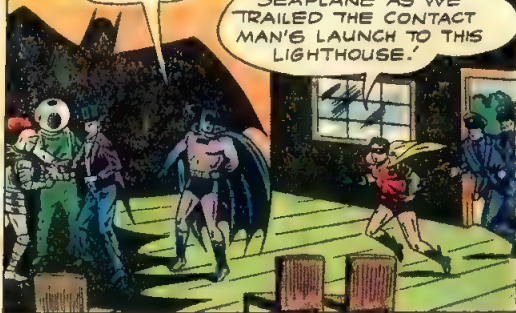
GRAB HIS STOOGE--THE CONTACT MAN!



SUDDENLY, THE DOOR SLAMS OPEN, AS...

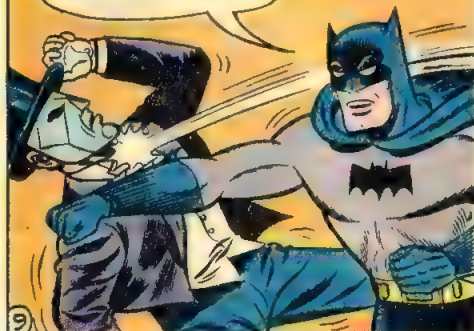
ROBIN, WHAT KEPT YOU? I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D GET HERE IN TIME!

SORRY, BUT WE WANTED TO BE SURE WE WEREN'T SPOTTED IN THE SEAPLANE AS WE TRAILED THE CONTACT MAN'S LAUNCH TO THIS LIGHTHOUSE.



AS THE BOSS SUDDENLY TRIES TO MAKE A BREAK FOR IT...

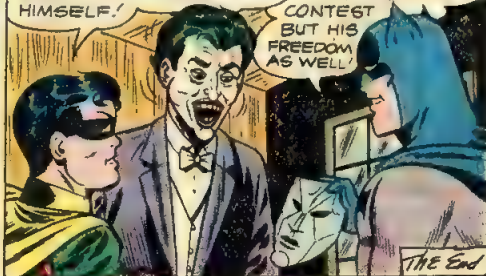
WHOA! I WANT TO SEE WHO IS HIDING BEHIND THAT FALSE FACE HOOD!



SWIFTLY, BATMAN UNMASKS THE MASTER-MIND OF THE FALSE FACE SOCIETY SWINDLE, TO REVEAL...

THE JOKER--WHOSE OWN "FALSE FACE" IS A PERMANENT JOKE ONE! ISN'T THAT JUST LIKE HIM TO PULL A BIG JOKE--EVEN ON CROOKS LIKE HIMSELF!

UNFORTUNATELY FOR HIM, HIS BOOMERANGED--BECAUSE HE NOT ONLY LOST THE CONTEST BUT HIS FREEDOM AS WELL!

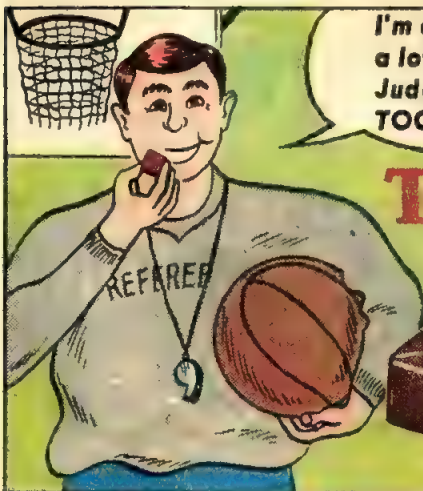


THE End

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I'm a Basketball referee who has to make a lot of close decisions. And, I'm a Fudge Judge too. But, there's nothing close to TOOTSIE ROLL Fudge, best by a mile.

Tootsie Roll Fudge
in chocolate & vanilla
SMOOTH · CREAMY · DELICIOUS





TRUE CRIME LAFFS

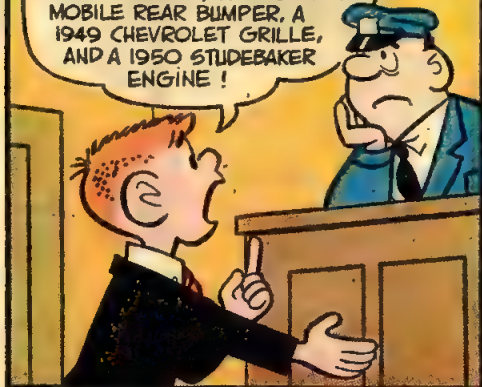
IN DAYTON, KY., AN ESCAPED PRISONER WHO WAS RECAPTURED TWO HOURS LATER, EXPLAINED.....

I'VE GOT CLAUSTROPHOBIA.
I COULDN'T STAND BEING
LOCKED UP!



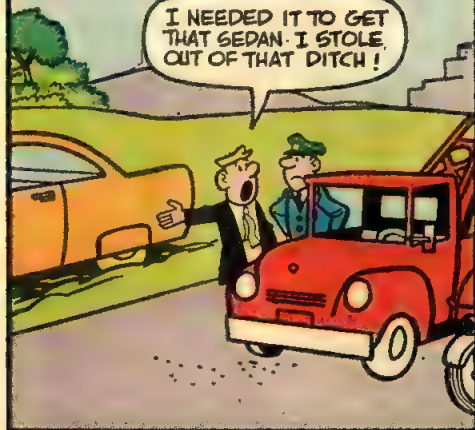
A MAN TOLD CHICAGO POLICE HOW
THEY COULD IDENTIFY HIS STOLEN
CAR.....

A 1949 CHEVROLET BODY,
MOUNTED ON A 1939 STUDEBAKER
CHASSIS, WITH A 1949 KAISER
FRONT BUMPER, A 1949 OLDS-
MOBILE REAR BUMPER, A
1949 CHEVROLET GRILLE,
AND A 1950 STUDEBAKER
ENGINE!



WHEN OKLAHOMA CITY POLICE
CAPTURED A MAN STEALING A
WRECKER FROM A GARAGE,
HE TOLD THEM.....

I NEEDED IT TO GET
THAT SEDAN. I STOLE
OUT OF THAT DITCH!



WHEN DALLAS POLICE CAUGHT A MAN
TRYING TO CRACK A SAFE, HE SAID...

I'M GOING ON TRIAL
TOMORROW FOR ARMED
ROBBERY. I NEED
SOME MONEY!



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SCIENCE-FICTION *plus* SPORTS STORIES
equals
STRANGE SPORTS
 STORIES

THANKS TO A
NEW TECHNIQUE
 IN COMIC BOOK ILLUSTRATION,
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 BASEBALL GAME--A FOOT-
 BALL GAME--PLAYED BEFORE
 YOUR VERY EYES!

AND WHAT A BASEBALL
 GAME--A "WORLDS" SERIES
 MATCH BETWEEN THE
 BASEBALL CHAMPIONS OF
 EARTH AND A HEADLESS
 BASEBALL TEAM FROM
 ANOTHER WORLD!

AND WHAT A FOOTBALL
 GAME--STARRING THE
 GREATEST PIGSKIN HERO
 OF ALL TIME--
**"GOLIATH OF THE
 GRIDIRON!"**



Remember,

THE STRANGEST
 STORIES EVER TOLD--
 APPEAR IN . . .



ON SALE EVERYWHERE
 OCT. 25th



Dear Editor: I like your BATMAN magazine very much. I started reading it two years ago, and I have a few questions to ask. First, why is the Joker's skin white, and his hair green? Second, why don't Batman and Robin have any eyeballs when their masks are on? Third, in the story, "The Joker's Greatest Triumph," you show Merry Mack about to unmask Batman and thinking to himself: "Why should the Joker be the only one to know Batman's identity?" Why would he think this when Merry Mack is the Joker himself?

David Cooper, Brooklyn, N. Y.

(That's a lot of "whys"! In a previous letter column, we gave the answer to the first "why," but we'll repeat it since there have been several queries about the Joker's appearance. It was all the result of an accident that occurred years ago while he was committing a daring crime. In making his getaway, the Joker had to swim through a pool of chemical wastes that were being discarded by the factory he had just robbed. The combination of all those chemicals caused a permanent change of his features, turning his hair green, his lips rouge-red, and his skin chalk-white.

As for the second question, Batman and Robin do have eyeballs beneath their masks, but artistic license is taken in not drawing them.

The answer to the third "why" is "why, indeed?" You're quite right in pointing this out. It wasn't supposed to be a thought balloon; Merry Mack should have said this aloud, to cover up the fact that he was the Joker.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: I once had a Batman Annual, with a drawing of Batman's secret utility belt. Now that I've lost the Annual, I forgot what was in the belt. Can you tell me?

Chris Cardillo, Syosset, N. Y.

(The drawing you mention contained, among other things, infra-red flashlight, tiny oxy-acetylene torch, fingerprint equipment, miniature camera, smoke capsule, Bat-rope reel, pass keys. But you must understand that Batman and Robin change the items in their utility belts from time to time, and so may carry various other items not mentioned.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: In a recent issue of BATMAN, you show Batman extracting a batarang from his person. I see no possible place where he could have carried it.

Paul Martin, Albuquerque, N. M.

(The batarangs used by Batman are collapsible and fit into the utility belt. See letter above.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: Will there ever be a future Batman? If so, will he ever come to the present to meet our

Batman? Also, why not publish a few 3-part novels now and then in BATMAN COMICS? Your Letters to the Bat-Cave in issue No. 150, by the way, were the best you have ever published.

Chuck Morgan, Columbus, Ohio

(We once had Batman and Robin in an adventure with a Batman of the future, and a sequel with the future Batman here in the present. We may use one of these stories in a Batman Annual, or if there's sufficient interest, we may have another adventure featuring the future Batman. For the answer to your second question, see the reply to the next letter.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: Batwoman is an interesting and exciting character. I am looking forward to seeing her and Bat-Girl star in another Batman adventure soon.

Tim J. Cain, Pottstown, Pa.

(You won't have to wait long. Our two feminine heroines team up with Batman and Robin in a complete booklength 3-parter, in the next issue of BATMAN COMICS, Feb., No. 153. It's one of the most unusual and thrilling adventures we've ever published, "Prisoners of Three Worlds." More on Batwoman in the following letters.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: How did Batman and Robin discover Batwoman's secret identity?

Larry Somer, E. Meadow, N. Y.

Dear Editor: I think a story on the marriage of Batman and Batwoman would be great. How about it? Can we see one soon?

John Koehler, Milwaukee, Wis.

(These are but a few of the letters we've received about Batwoman recently, and we hope to satisfy Batwoman (and Batman and Robin) fans in our next Annual, THE SECRET ADVENTURES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN, which should be on sale about the middle of November. Among the exciting personal stories of our heroes will be "The Origin of Batwoman," and "The Marriage of Batman and Batwoman." The other titles (and you can guess their themes) are: "Batman's College Days," "The Man Who Ended Batman's Career," "The First Batman," "The Second Boy Wonder," "Am I Really Batman?" "Phantom of the Bat-Cave," and "The Vanished Batman." All top-notch, suspense-filled adventures! Be sure to get your copy early, since the Annuals have been selling out fast.—Ed.)

Please address all mail to: Letters to the Bat-Cave, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York 22, N.Y. Because of the large volume of mail received, we cannot always answer all letters personally.



BATMAN



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

GREAT SCOTT! THE
MARTIANS HAVE SWUNG
THEIR LAND-BOAT AROUND--
AND I CAN'T AVOID IT IN
TIME! WE'RE GOING
TO CRASH!

BOB
KANE

THIS IS THE STORY OF A MAN WHO WANTED TO DO
ONE THING BEFORE HE DIED--TO ADVENTURE INTO THE WORLD
OF OUTER SPACE! THIS IS THE STORY OF HOW BATMAN AND ROBIN
MADE HIS WISH COME TRUE! THIS IS THE STORY OF FRIENDSHIP AND GALLANT
SACRIFICE! IT IS A HUMAN STORY--THE STORY OF A ...

MEMORIAL TO AN ASTRONAUT



BATMAN

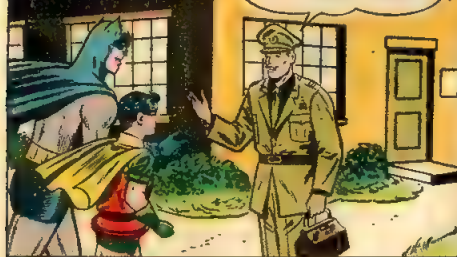


AT A GOVERNMENT LABORATORY, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE ABOUT TO VISIT THEIR GOOD FRIEND, MINERALOGIST LUKE HALEY, WHEN...

DR. ROBBINS--
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I HOPE OLD LUKE
ISN'T SICK...

I'M AFRAID
HE'S **VERY**
SICK, **BATMAN!**

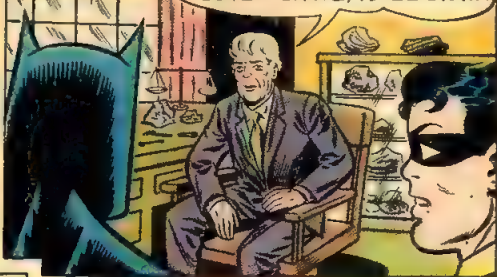
HE--HE'S A DYING
MAN! HE MAY GO
AT ANY TIME...



STUNNED BY THE TERRIBLE NEWS, THEY ENTER THE LABORATORY WHERE...

LUKE, WE JUST
HEARD! I-I...

HECK, I WOULDN'T MIND
DYING, **BATMAN--** BUT
FOR YEARS I'VE DREAMED,
AND HOPED, THAT WHEN THE
FIRST MANNED ROCKET
SHIP BLASTED OFF FOR
OUTER SPACE, I'D BE ON IT...



...THAT I'D TRAVEL TO
OTHER PLANETS TO
LOOK FOR MINERALS!
BUT NOW, I'M TOO
OLD--AND TOO
LATE!

ONCE, LONG AGO, LUKE
SAVED MY LIFE WHEN
CROOKS HAD ME
TRAPPED! MAYBE IT'S
NOT TOO LATE TO REPAY
HIM--AND MAKE HIS
DREAM COME TRUE...



SOMETIME LATER, AT A SECRET MEETING...

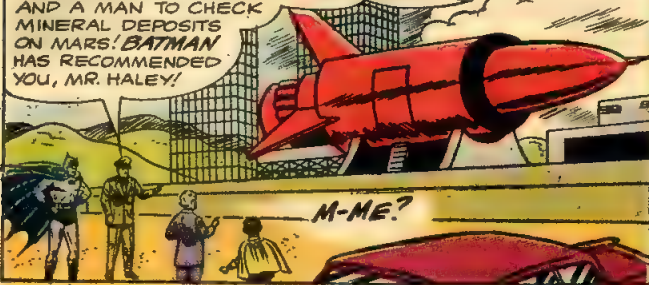
GENERAL, THANKS FOR
YOUR COOPERATION... DR.
ROBBINS, WILL THE
EXCITEMENT BE
TOO MUCH FOR
LUKE?

NO! WHEN LUKE
DIES, IT WILL BE
ONLY BECAUSE
HIS TIME IS UP! BUT
HE MAY DIE ANY DAY
NOW--SO YOU'D BETTER
WORK FAST!



THE NEXT MORNING, LUKE IS SUMMONED TO A LAUNCHING SITE, WHERE...

THAT IS THE **SPACE PROGRAM'S** BIGGEST
SECRET-- A SHIP THAT CAN TRAVEL TO
MARS! IT IS ABLE TO CARRY THREE
PASSENGERS-- **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**--
AND A MAN TO CHECK
MINERAL DEPOSITS
ON MARS! **BATMAN**
HAS RECOMMENDED
YOU, MR. HALEY!



M-ME?

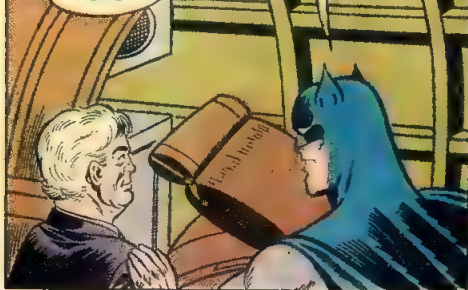
WELL, LUKE--
WE'RE
TAKING
OFF RIGHT
AWAY!

I--I CAN
HARDLY
BELIEVE THIS
IS HAPPENING--
AND JUST WHEN
I'D GIVEN UP
HOPE! THANKS,
BATMAN--
THANKS FOR FIXING
IT SO I COULD
GO ALONG WITH
YOU!



SHORTLY INSIDE THE SHIP...

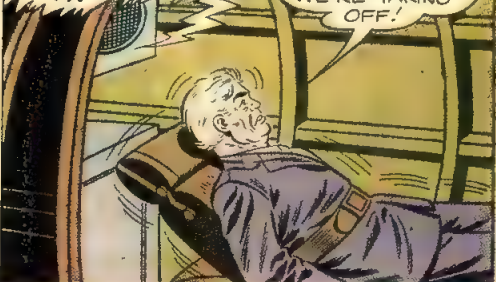
LUKE, THIS IS YOUR COMPARTMENT. IT'S A NEW INVENTION--DESIGNED TO MINIMIZE THE TERRIFIC EFFECTS AT THE BLAST-OFF, WHEN THE SHIP FIGHTS EARTH'S GRAVITATIONAL PULL!



SOON AFTER, THE COUNT-DOWN BEGINS--AND THEN, IN HIS CLOSED, WINDOWLESS COMPARTMENT, LUKE FEELS THE SHIP SHUDDER AS...

THIS IS **BATMAN** ON THE INTER-COM, LUKE! HANG ON! **THIS IS IT!**

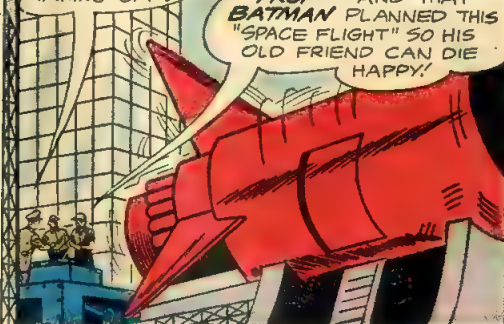
YES--YES! I CAN FEEL THE SHIP MOVING! WE'RE TAKING OFF!



BUT, OUTSIDE, THIS IS WHAT LUKE CANNOT SEE OR HEAR...

MEN, KEEP THAT VIBRATOR SHAKING THE "SPACE SHIP"--SO LUKE THINKS IT'S TAKING OFF!

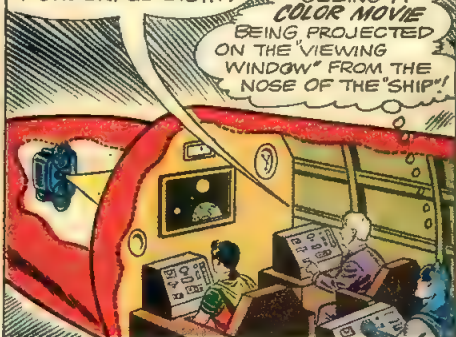
LET'S HOPE THAT LUKE NEVER REALIZES THE "SHIP" IS JUST A BORROWED **MOVIE PROP**--AND THAT **BATMAN** PLANNED THIS "SPACE FLIGHT" SO HIS OLD FRIEND CAN DIE HAPPY!



SOMETIME LATER, WHEN **BATMAN** LETS LUKE OUT OF THE COMPARTMENT...

WE'RE ACTUALLY IN OUTER SPACE! THERE'S EARTH--THE STARS. OH! WHAT A WONDERFUL SIGHT!

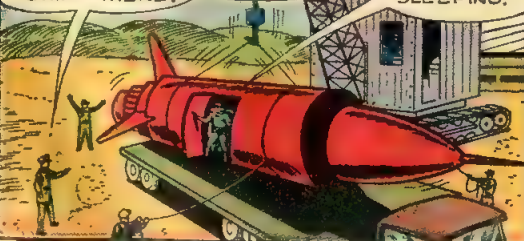
LUKE DOESN'T KNOW HE'S ACTUALLY SEEING A **COLOR MOVIE** BEING PROJECTED ON THE VIEWING WINDOW FROM THE NOSE OF THE "SHIP"!



HOURS LATER, EXHAUSTED BY HIS EXCITING DAY, LUKE FALLS INTO A DEEP SLEEP--UN-AWARE OF THE NEXT MOVE IN **BATMAN'S** PLAN!

WE'RE LOWERING THE "SHIP" TO THE TRUCK NOW, **BATMAN!** THE TRUCK WILL GET YOU TO "**MARS**" IN TWO HOURS--AND THEN THE WORK CREW WILL SET UP THE "SHIP" THERE!

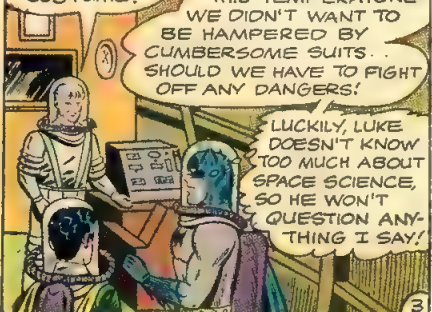
GOOD! WHEN LUKE AWAKENS, HE'LL THINK WE LANDED WHILE HE WAS SLEEPING!



AND SO, THE NEXT MORNING...

SAY--HOW COME YOU'RE NOT WEARING A FULL SPACE COSTUME?

UH--**ROBIN** AND I WERE CONDITIONED FOR THIS TEMPERATURE--WE DIDN'T WANT TO BE HAMPERED BY CUMBERSOME SUITS. SHOULD WE HAVE TO FIGHT OFF ANY DANGERS?



LUCKILY, LUKE DOESN'T KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT SPACE SCIENCE, SO HE WON'T QUESTION ANYTHING I SAY!



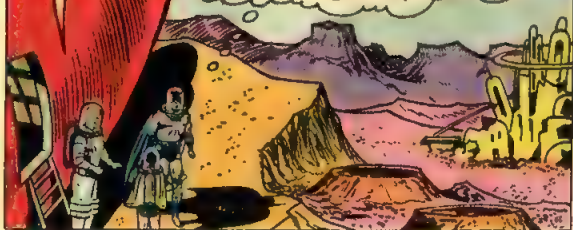
BATMAN



MINUTES LATER, THE OLD FELLOW'S EYES FILL WITH TEARS OF JOY AS HE VIEWS THE ALIEN TERRAIN BEFORE HIM...

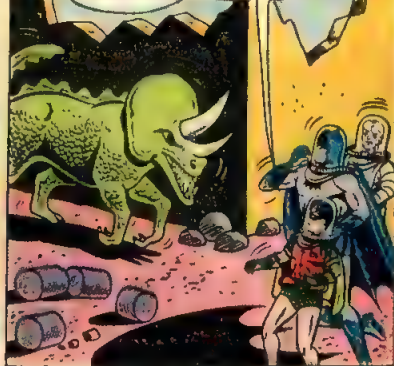
I'M ACTUALLY HERE! I'M ON MARS! AND THERE'S THE RUINS OF A CITY!

LUKE WILL NEVER KNOW THIS IS ONLY THE SET FOR A SCIENCE-FICTION MOVIE--AND THAT THE PRODUCER IS A FRIEND OF MINE WHO WAS GLAD TO HELP. LUCKILY, THIS AREA IS FAR OFF THE AIR- LINES, SO NOTHING CAN INFORM LUKE THAT HE'S STILL ON EARTH!



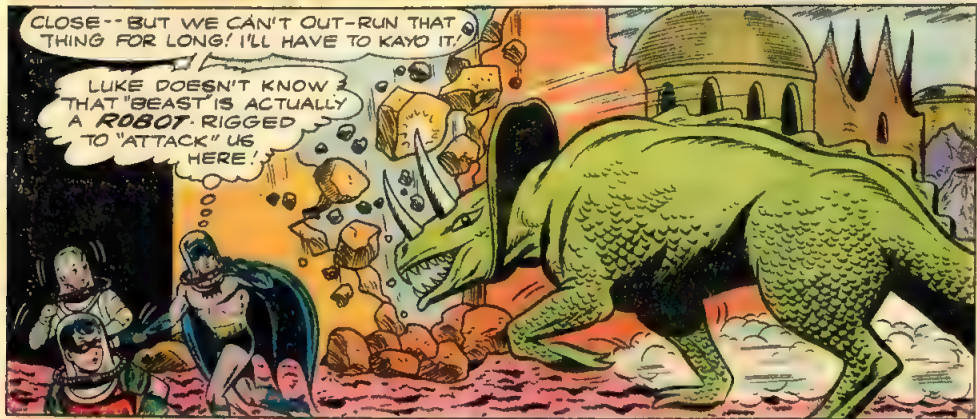
AS THEY WALK FORWARD...

WOW! A BEAST OF SOME KIND--AND IT'S COMING FOR US!



CLOSE-- BUT WE CAN'T OUT-RUN THAT THING FOR LONG! I'LL HAVE TO KAYO IT!

LUKE DOESN'T KNOW THAT THAT BEAST IS ACTUALLY A ROBOT RIGGED TO "ATTACK" US HERE!



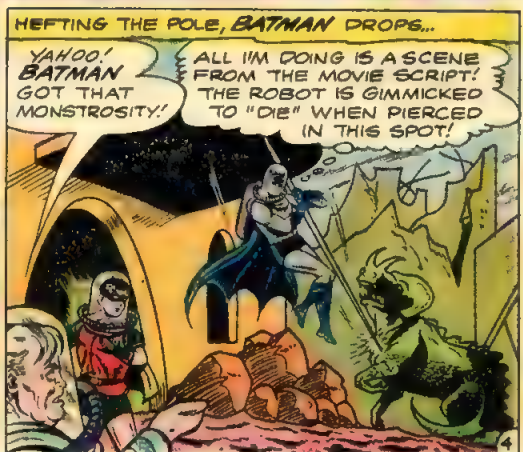
KEEP GOING WITH LUKE, ROBIN! MOVE WHILE THE CREATURE IS CURIOUS ABOUT ME! I'M GOING TO TRY SOMETHING WITH THAT BROKEN MARTIAN FLAGPOLE!



HEFTING THE POLE, BATMAN DROPS...

YAHOO! BATMAN GOT THAT MONSTROSITY!

ALL I'M DOING IS A SCENE FROM THE MOVIE SCRIPT! THE ROBOT IS GIMMICKED TO "DIE" WHEN PIERCED IN THIS SPOT!



SHORTLY, AS THEY STAND BEFORE THE "SLAIN" ROBOT-BEAST...

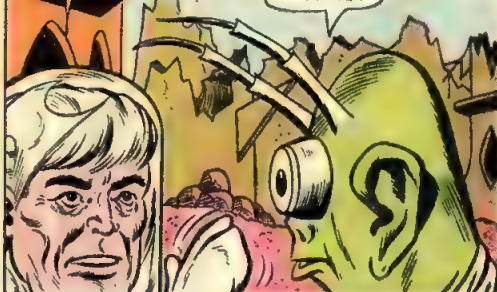
YOU ARE VERY BRAVE TO HAVE MET AND CONQUERED THE SLAIN!

DO NOT BE SURPRISED THAT WE SEEM TO SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE! ACTUALLY, THE LINGUA-DISKS WE WEAR INSTANTLY TRANSLATE ALL LANGUAGES SO THAT WE CAN UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER!



WE COME FROM THE PLANET EARTH! WHY IS YOUR CITY ABANDONED?

MARS IS AN OLD, DYING PLANET--AND OUR RACE IS DYING WITH IT! THERE ARE FEW OF US LEFT! PERHAPS EARTHLINGS WHO COME IN THE FUTURE, CAN BRING NEW LIFE TO MARS!



IT WOULD PAY YOU TO COME HERE--FOR MARS HAS GREAT MINERAL WEALTH! YOU CAN SEE IT YOURSELF, BEYOND THE CITY!

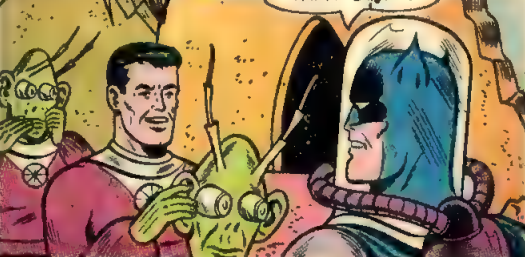
MINERALS! THAT'S MY JOB! I'M GOING OVER TO TAKE A LOOK, BATMAN!



AS THE OLD-TIMER LEAVES...

IT WORKED, BATMAN! HE NEVER SUSPECTED WE'RE ACTORS!

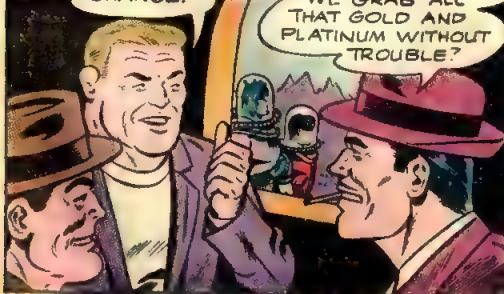
YES--BUT LUKE IS AN EXPERT ON MINERALS--SO I HAD TO PLANT ACTUAL MINERALS AMONG THOSE ROCKS! THERE'S A SMALL FORTUNE OF BORROWED GOLD AND PLATINUM ORE AT THAT SPOT!



AS BATMAN AND ROBIN LEAVE TO REJOIN LUKE, THEY ARE UNAWARE OF THREE CRIMINALS IN HIDING CLOSE BY...

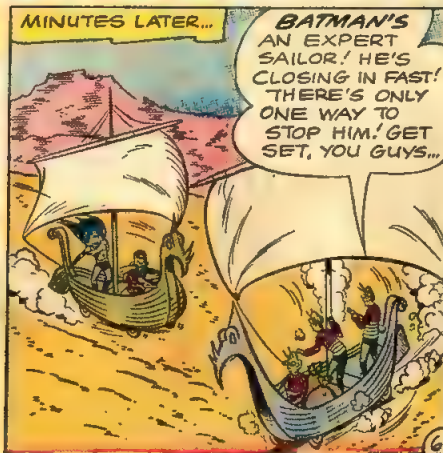
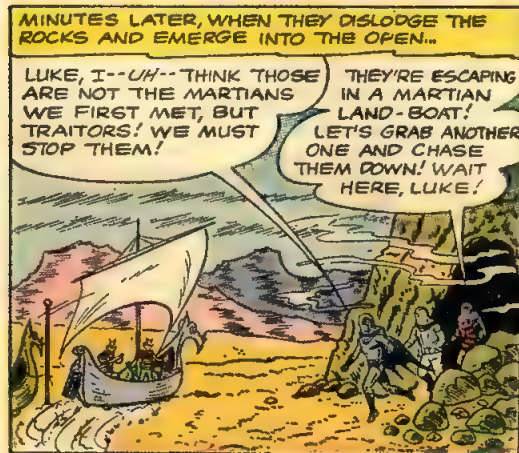
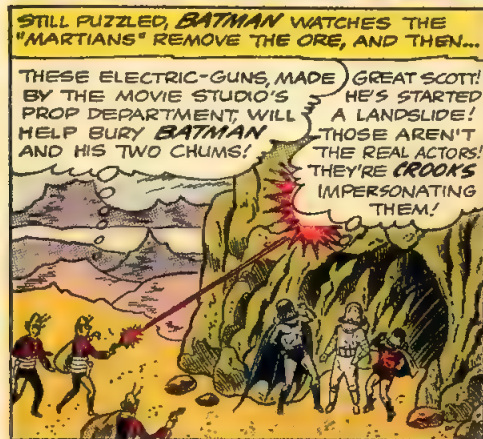
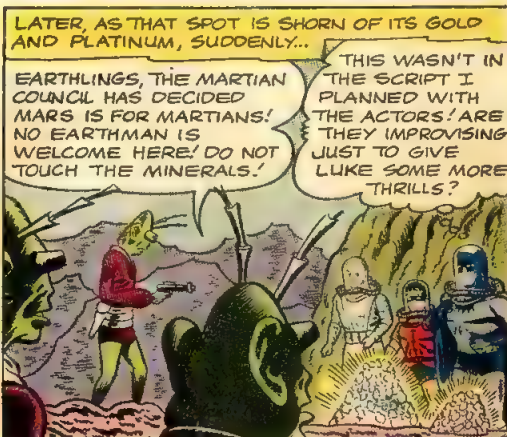
GOOD THING WE WERE HIDING FROM THE COPS! THIS IS OUR BIG CHANCE!

YEAH--BUT BATMAN'S A TOUGH GUY TO BEAT! HOW CAN WE GRAB ALL THAT GOLD AND PLATINUM WITHOUT TROUBLE?

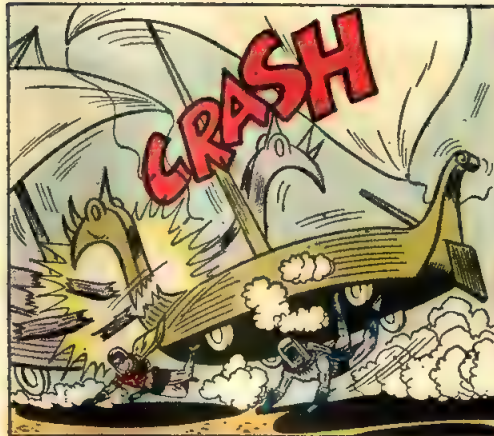
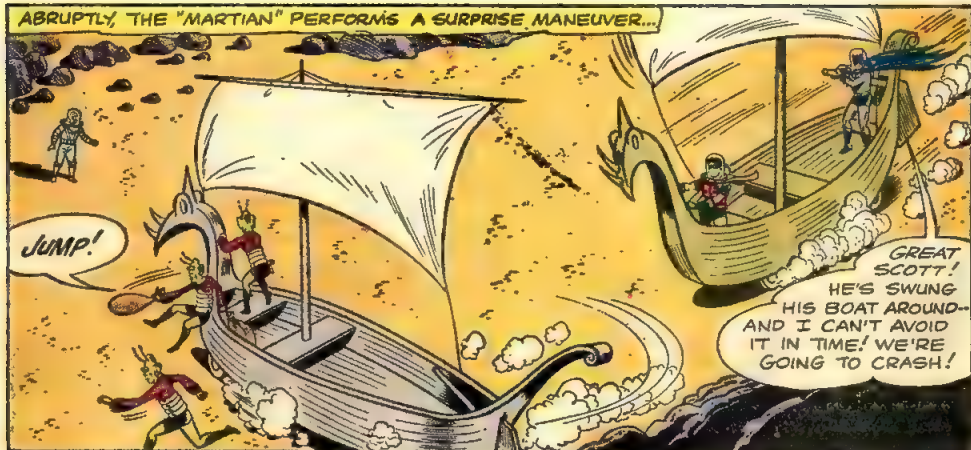


WHY DON'T WE TAKE A TIP FROM THE FALSE FACE SOCIETY WE READ ABOUT IN THE NEWSPAPERS? WE'LL GRAB THOSE "MARTIAN COSTUMES"--AND BATMAN WILL THINK WE'RE THE ACTORS! THAT WAY, WE'LL BE ABLE TO CATCH HIM BY SURPRISE!





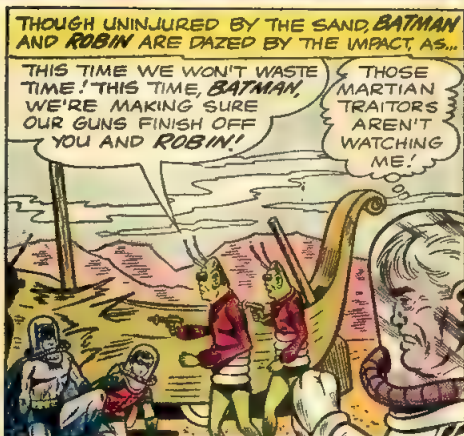
ABRUPTLY, THE "MARTIAN" PERFORMS A SURPRISE MANEUVER...



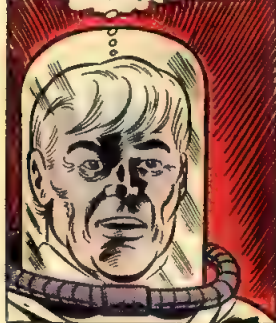
THOUGH UNINJURED BY THE SAND, BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE DAZED BY THE IMPACT, AS...

THIS TIME WE WON'T WASTE TIME! THIS TIME, BATMAN, WE'RE MAKING SURE OUR GUNS FINISH OFF YOU AND ROBIN!

THOSE MARTIAN TRAITORS AREN'T WATCHING ME!



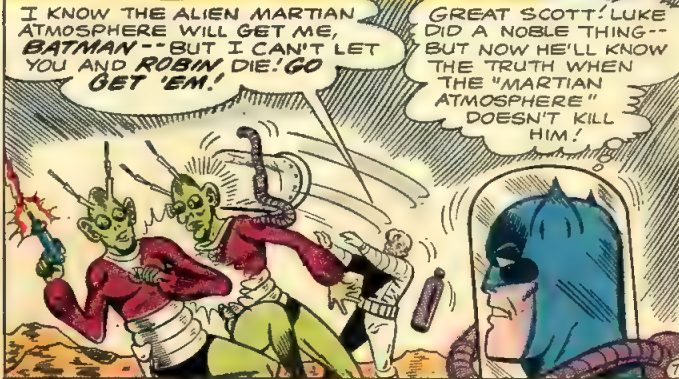
I'VE GOT TO ACT FAST! I'M A DYING MAN, SO MY LIFE IS OVER, BUT BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE A RIGHT TO LIVE!



MAKING A GRIM DECISION, LUKE SUDDENLY RUSHES FORWARD, WHIPS HIS HANDS TO HIS SPACE HELMET, AND...

I KNOW THE ALIEN MARTIAN ATMOSPHERE WILL GET ME, BATMAN-- BUT I CAN'T LET YOU AND ROBIN DIE! GO GET 'EM!

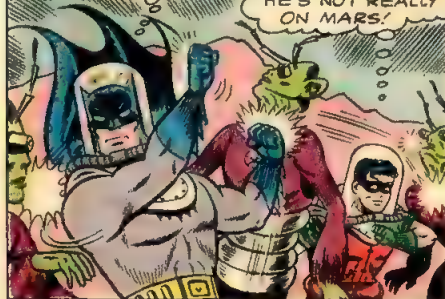
GREAT SCOTT! LUKE DID A NOBLE THING-- BUT NOW HE'LL KNOW THE TRUTH WHEN THE "MARTIAN ATMOSPHERE" DOESN'T KILL HIM!



BATMAN AND ROBIN ANGRILY SLAM INTO THE DISGUISED BANDITS...

IT'S THE FAULT OF THESE CROOKS THAT LUKE WILL KNOW THE TRUTH!

LUKE WILL BE BROKEN-HEARTED WHEN HE LEARNS HE'S NOT REALLY ON MARS!



BUT MOMENTS LATER, WHEN THE BANDITS LIE UNCONSCIOUS...

SUDDENLY SO WEAK! THE MARTIAN ATMOSPHERE-- TAKING EFFECT!

LUKE DOESN'T KNOW THAT IT'S NOT THE ATMOSPHERE! IT'S HIS ILLNESS! HIS TIME HAS RUN OUT!



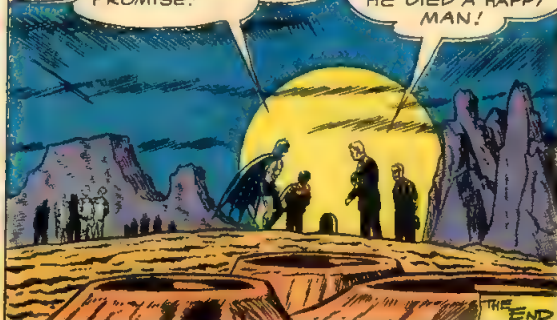
DON'T BE SORRY, **BATMAN!** I'VE TRAVELLED IN OUTER SPACE-- WALKED ON MARS! MY LIFE HAS BEEN COMPLETE!



LATER, A GRAVESTONE MARKS THE RESTING PLACE OF A BRAVE, FINE MAN!

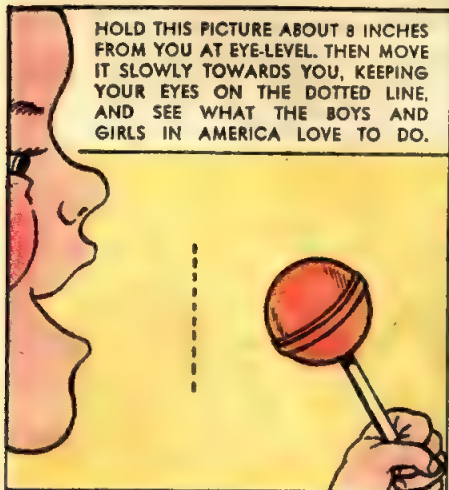
HIS LAST REQUEST WAS THAT HE BE BURIED HERE-- ON "MARS". I'VE KEPT MY PROMISE!

LUKE DIED, NEVER KNOWING THE TRUTH! THANKS TO YOU, **BATMAN**-- HE DIED A HAPPY MAN!



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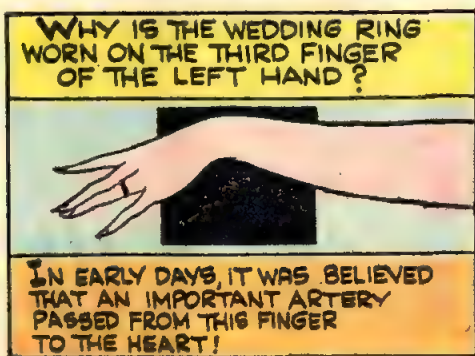
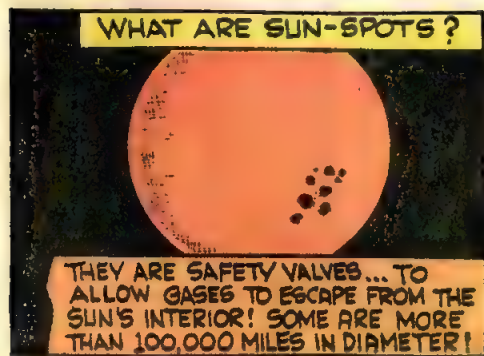
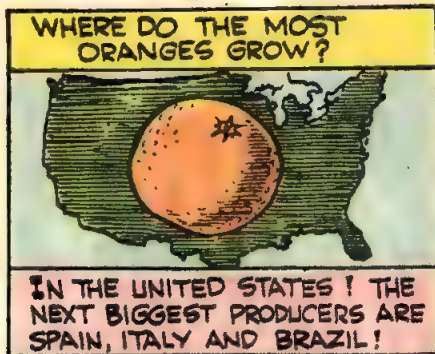
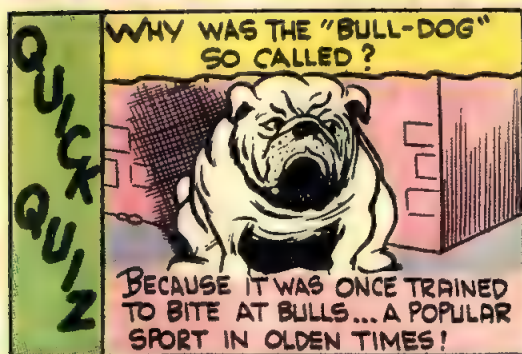
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SUPERMAN

"PENNIES for UNICEF!"



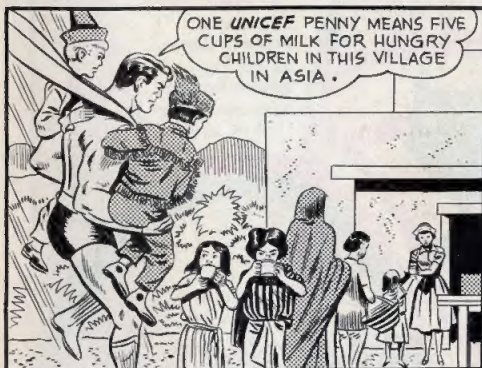
SAY, JOE, ARE YOU GOING TO COLLECT PENNIES FOR UNICEF TONIGHT?

ME? I'M GOING TO GET ALL THE CANDY BARS AND COOKIES AND PENNIES FOR MYSELF! ANYHOW, WHAT GOOD WOULD PENNIES DO FOR UNICEF?

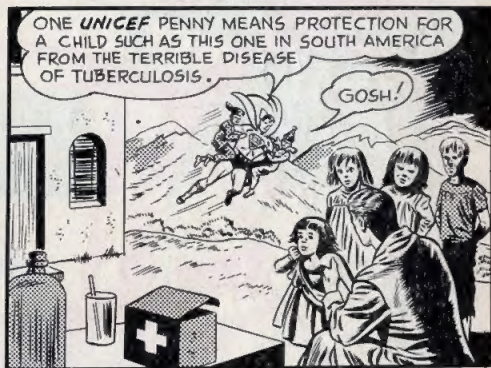


SUPERMAN!

THE BEST WAY TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION, JOE, IS TO TAKE YOU BOYS ON A LITTLE TRIP ACROSS THE OCEAN SO YOU CAN SEE FIRST HAND HOW YOUR PENNIES HELP UNICEF TO HELP OTHERS.

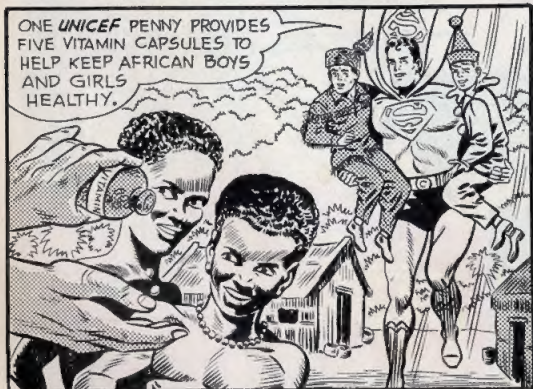


ONE UNICEF PENNY MEANS FIVE CUPS OF MILK FOR HUNGRY CHILDREN IN THIS VILLAGE IN ASIA.

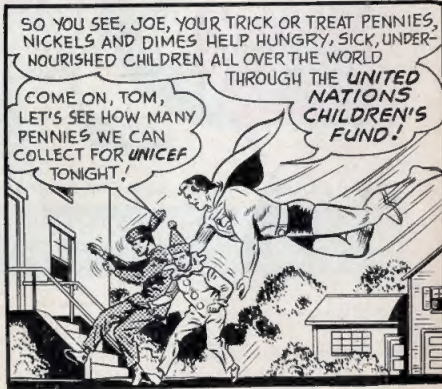


ONE UNICEF PENNY MEANS PROTECTION FOR A CHILD SUCH AS THIS ONE IN SOUTH AMERICA FROM THE TERRIBLE DISEASE OF TUBERCULOSIS.

GOSH!



ONE UNICEF PENNY PROVIDES FIVE VITAMIN CAPSULES TO HELP KEEP AFRICAN BOYS AND GIRLS HEALTHY.



SO YOU SEE, JOE, YOUR TRICK OR TREAT PENNIES, NICKELS AND DIMES HELP HUNGRY, SICK, UNDER-NOURISHED CHILDREN ALL OVER THE WORLD

COME ON, TOM, LET'S SEE HOW MANY PENNIES WE CAN COLLECT FOR UNICEF TONIGHT!

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